



Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development



Healthcare Workforce Development Division
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December 30, 2011

Dear Rural Health Stakeholders:

The enacted California State Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12 included initiatives to reduce the size of and optimize the efficiency of government through a number of realignments, restructures and elimination of specified state government organizations. These initiatives included consolidating a number of state departments, as well as eliminating many boards and commissions. Impact to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) includes the elimination of the Rural Health Policy Council and the California Health Policy and Data Advisory Commission.

Although the Rural Health Policy Council will be eliminated effective January 1, 2012, OSHPD is committed to continuing to provide essential workforce development services for rural California communities. This will be done through the continued administration of the Rural Jobs Available and the Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet) programs via OSHPD's Healthcare Workforce Development Division. The transfer of these programs will better meet the additional workforce development needs of rural constituents as the Healthcare Workforce Development Division promotes healthcare workforce development, distribution, diversity, competency, collaboration and capacity building. Consolidating the Rural Jobs Available and 3RNet programs within the Healthcare Workforce Development Division will provide for a centralized source of information regarding health workforce development activities within the Health and Human Services Agency.

Our new contact information is as follows:

Rural Health Services Unit (RHSU)
Healthcare Workforce Development Division, OSHPD
400 R Street, Suite 330
Sacramento, CA 95811
Telephone: (800) 237-4492 and (916) 326-3670
Fax: (916) 322-2588.
Email: rhsu@oshpd.ca.gov

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Maestas".

Kathleen Maestas, Manager
Rural Health Services Unit